

PURGING AIR FROM THE TESTER AND GAUGE

PURPOSE:

Whenever tester fluid escapes for any reason from the hydraulic system, it is replaced by air from the atmosphere. Unless the lost tester fluid is immediately restored, the air forms into pockets in the remaining tester fluid. These pockets act as air cushions to absorb some of the energy which is normally imparted to the diaphragm and gauge. If the condition is ignored, the air pockets may reach such proportions that they render the tester inoperative and may actually cause physical injury to the tester.

Air, being lighter than the tester fluid, generally forms pockets at the highest point in the system – the pressure gauge. Once lodged in the gauge tube, however, it is extremely difficult to remove unless a means is provided in the gauge for doing so. Mullen® gauges provide for air removal by means of a capillary bleeder tube leading from the extreme tip of the bourdon tube to a vent valve on the outside of the case. Periodic bleeding of the gauge will insure prompt gauge response, greater accuracy of testers, and longer life of the tester.

To purge air from your tester and gauge, follow Steps #10 through #17B under “Instructions for Replacing Diaphragms”.